



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112

(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending September 9, 2012

Issued weekly, April-November

Released September 10, 2012, 4 pm

*This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa) and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."*

**Good Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. Field activities for the week included harvesting apples, peaches, and corn silage. Fall plowing continues and is 20% complete, compared to last year's 23% and the average of 21%.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending Sep 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1	23	73	3

**Crop Progress:** Corn is 95% at the dough stage, compared with 87% last year and the average of 88%. Corn is 73% at the dent stage, ahead of 57% at this time last year and the average of 63%. Corn is 21% at the mature stage; ahead of 11% at this time last year and about even with the average of 21%. The corn silage harvest continues at 50% complete, compared to 22% at this time last year and the average of 38%. Tobacco harvest is 83% complete, ahead of 46% at this time last year and the average of 70%. The potato harvest is 49% complete, ahead of last year's 27% and the average of 31%. Fourth cutting of alfalfa is 69% complete, compared with 39% at this time last year and the average of 47%. The second cutting of timothy/clover is 97% complete, ahead of last year's 93% and the 5-year average of 93%. The apple harvest is 51% complete, ahead of 43% at this time last year and the average of 42%. Grape harvest now at 14% complete, compared to 4% at this time last year and the average of 3%.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 9% poor, 25% fair, 46% good, and 19% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, and 23% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 11% very poor, 21% poor, 32% fair, 31% good and 5% excellent.

**Nationwide as of September 2, 2012:** Near- to above-average temperatures were recorded across much of the country during the week, promoting late-season fieldwork and summer crop maturation. In portions of the northern Great Plains, temperatures averaged more than 9°F above normal, maintaining stress on many drought-affected pastures and late-

maturing crops. Meanwhile, near-normal temperatures and dry weather in the Pacific Northwest promoted rapid small grain harvest during the week. Hurricane Isaac dumped late-week rainfall totaling more than 12 inches on portions of Louisiana and Mississippi, triggering severe flooding and causing crop damage in some areas. The remnants of the storm brought beneficial precipitation to parts of the Delta and Corn Belt, boosting soil moisture levels in advance of winter grain seeding.

**Corn:** By week's end, 86 percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the dent stage, 21 percentage points ahead of last year and 23 points ahead of the 5-year average. Hot, dry conditions in the Great Plains and western Corn Belt allowed for continued rapid phenological development of the corn crop. Forty-one percent of the nation's crop was mature by September 2, twenty-six percentage points ahead of last year and 25 points ahead of the 5-year average. In portions of the Corn Belt, heavy rainfall slowed fieldwork during the week. Nationwide, producers had harvested 10 percent of the corn crop by week's end, 7 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Overall, 22 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 30 percentage points below the same time last year. **Soybeans:** Producers in parts of the Corn Belt hoped that late-season rainfall would benefit pod fill in later-planted soybean fields. Meanwhile, leaf drop advanced to 19 percent complete nationally by September 2, fourteen percentage points ahead of last year and 10 points ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest was underway in a limited number of areas by week's end. Overall, 30 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 26 percentage points below the same time last year. **Small Grains:** By September 2, barley producers had harvested 89 percent of this year's crop. This was 27 percentage points ahead of last year and 18 points ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest advanced most rapidly in Washington during the week, where dry weather provided ample time for fieldwork. By week's end, 95 percent of the spring wheat crop was harvested, 32 percentage points ahead of last year and 23 points ahead of the 5-year average. In North Dakota, producers had completed this year's harvest by September 2, compared with last year when only 59 percent of the crop had been combined.

## Weather Data For Week Ending September 9, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - September 9, 2012					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	90	56	73	7	1.84	3	14.05	-5.61	49	2,795	579	4,247
Franklin_AG	89	51	72	9	1.10	4	16.39	-5.75	64	2,600	523	4,049
Meadville-Port	86	54	72	9	2.62	4	18.08	-3.94	58	2,667	763	4,131
Clarion	85	50	70	7	0.70	3	19.46	-3.54	60	2,293	203	3,724
Springboro	85	56	71	5	2.02	3	18.06	-1.31	60	2,322	129	3,736
Warren	86	55	71	8	1.31	4	18.17	-3.94	63	2,427	410	3,860
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	83	48	69	10	1.52	4	19.17	-2.97	62	2,158	681	3,574
Oswayo	83	46	66	6	2.08	3	17.85	-3.03	56	1,904	278	3,291
Kane	84	51	70	11	1.59	5	21.38	-1.12	65	1,955	506	3,347
Laporte	78	49	66	3	2.88	6	28.13	7.75	69	2,123	55	3,546
Lock Haven	88	53	72	8	2.03	5	19.49	-0.63	68	2,773	585	4,291
Coudersport_1SW	84	47	68	8	1.72	5	22.47	1.59	72	1,999	373	3,388
Renovo	87	55	73	8	1.81	5	23.77	3.65	65	2,695	507	4,204
Ridgway	87	49	71	11	1.14	4	16.89	-5.22	65	2,298	638	3,732
Stevenson Dam	88	53	72	11	1.39	5	21.68	-0.43	58	2,580	920	4,071
Towanda	87	51	70	7	2.38	5	20.82	3.90	65	2,494	410	3,945
Wellsboro	84	46	67	7	2.04	4	16.84	-0.16	60	2,047	478	3,466
Williamsport	87	54	73	8	0.69	4	17.41	-2.39	67	2,975	563	4,506
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	84	50	67	6	1.48	5	17.77	-1.52	61	2,232	443	3,660
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	85	54	72	8	1.78	5	18.89	0.14	67	2,828	538	4,317
Susquehanna	82	51	69	9	1.03	4	24.12	3.52	62	2,384	681	3,822
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	86	54	72	7	2.17	4	17.70	-3.32	59	2,632	481	4,119
New Castle	90	52	74	9	1.36	4	21.40	2.35	56	2,836	685	4,334
Slippery Rock	90	50	73	10	1.97	3	20.35	-0.08	56	2,730	791	4,220
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	86	52	73	8	0.89	3	18.76	0.60	61	2,830	538	4,358
DuBois	85	51	71	8	0.61	2	15.94	-5.17	55	2,437	446	3,901
Lewistown	90	55	75	8	0.84	6	20.01	0.39	73	2,948	437	4,500
Middletown	89	58	76	7	0.64	5	22.95	3.60	63	3,286	456	4,859
Prince Gallitzi	86	49	70	8	0.79	4	19.52	-3.89	57	2,397	551	3,870
Selinsgrove	86	53	72	7	1.10	6	20.16	-0.05	69	2,820	466	4,333
State College	85	53	72	8	1.19	5	20.88	2.51	71	2,755	488	4,273
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	88	54	74	8	1.94	6	22.56	1.38	63	3,057	465	4,603
Lehighton	81	55	70	4	4.12	5	24.68	3.65	69	2,601	95	4,114
Matamoras	85	56	71	7	2.17	6	23.65	2.39	80	2,661	393	4,177
Mt_Pocono	81	50	67	8	2.19	6	21.84	-0.72	73	2,276	709	3,736
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	89	54	75	10	0.61	3	16.14	-3.31	60	3,155	854	4,694
Indiana_PA	86	54	73	8	1.35	6	19.97	-2.71	83	2,717	491	4,210
Myersdale	86	48	70	6	0.31	3	19.09	-2.95	67	2,105	-35	3,555
Chalk_Hill	86	52	71	5	1.23	6	21.20	-0.46	70	2,215	-235	3,673
Pittsburgh Intl	87	54	74	8	1.36	4	18.55	0.22	58	3,046	639	4,576
Connellsville	86	52	73	7	1.93	3	21.84	0.18	69	2,793	343	4,333
Waynesburg	89	52	74	9	1.49	4	16.43	-3.69	55	2,733	499	4,249
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	90	53	75	7	1.10	1	21.10	3.00	60	3,069	305	4,629
Everett	89	49	73	7	0.35	4	19.42	1.72	67	2,546	266	4,052
Hanover	90	53	75	7	1.41	2	21.28	3.18	65	3,017	253	4,566
Harrisburg_AP	90	55	76	7	0.75	2	23.48	4.13	63	3,334	497	4,909
South Mountain	84	51	72	8	0.85	4	25.73	7.57	68	2,496	211	3,993
York	90	52	76	8	1.20	2	19.45	-0.19	67	3,016	266	4,550
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	87	58	74	8	3.93	4	25.00	4.46	64	3,033	556	4,593
Hamburg	89	55	73	9	1.08	6	22.64	-1.05	68	2,975	704	4,522
West_Chester	88	56	74	6	5.48	4	22.64	0.43	47	3,014	271	4,552
Lancaster	88	55	75	8	3.57	4	19.34	-1.40	53	3,147	530	4,696
Neshaminy Falls	90	58	74	7	1.26	4	22.76	-1.12	67	3,139	552	4,717
New Holland	89	54	74	7	2.46	3	23.07	2.33	53	3,201	584	4,783
Philadelphia	89	62	78	7	4.01	5	19.70	-0.57	46	3,646	654	5,245
Philadelphia NE	88	60	76	5	6.78	5	24.09	3.82	55	3,345	353	4,925
Reading	90	56	76	9	2.19	5	19.19	-2.92	65	3,322	747	4,890
Sellersville	86	55	71	5	2.34	3	24.15	3.61	53	2,812	335	4,331
Doylestown_AG	88	60	75	8	1.47	4	23.08	-0.80	56	3,150	563	4,713

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

Copyright 2004: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A. Behney**

Adams County started the week off in the 80's, and heavy rains and thunderstorms Monday afternoon and into Tuesday morning. Some areas received 1.5" while York Springs received 2.5". Corn silage is being harvested in the county. Producers will be harvesting more corn for grain as it continues to mature with the prices being higher this year. Our County Committee stated corn will be from 5 bushels to 200+ bushels per acre. A lot of corn is still pretty green and with a lot being planted later hopefully no early frost comes. Soybeans continue to look good but are still pretty green. Some hay continues to be made when weather conditions permit. Some fields are being prepared for fall seedings of wheat, barley, rye etc.

Peach harvest is complete for the county. Some are still available at local fruit markets. Most producers had a decent crop this year. Apples are being harvested with more of the varieties for processing. Producers are receiving higher prices due to shortages of apples other places in the country. All of the varieties are earlier than normal. Vegetables continue to be harvested but are winding down.

Overall, Adams County producers are seeing their crops have pretty decent yields due to the weather our county has been given this year. Producers are hoping no additional hail storms come through the area until they get crops harvested.

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter**

Harvest is complete on Galas and Honeycrisp apples. The main harvest this week will be Golden Delicious. Quality continues to be good.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little**

Harvesting hay and potatoes this past week along with the fair activities.

### **CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker**

Showers helped top soil moisture; we received 0.75 inch of rainfall for the week.

### **CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanne**

Harvesting corn silage this week.

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr**

Good week for chopping corn for silage. Corn is drying down fast and high moisture corn is being harvested in the 20 to 24 percent moisture range. Dry corn harvest expected to start this week. Yields appear to be overall better than normal. Soybean yield expected to be better than average as well. Apple harvest is still a week or so ahead of normal with yields not great in some varieties.

### **LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Zeigler**

In between rainy days corn silage harvest continued. Fields are being prepped for cover crops. Pastures are looking good.

### **MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust**

Rainfall totaled 2.4 inches over the weekend. Fourth cuttings of hay that were topdressed with fertilizer a month ago are looking like high yields. Silo filling continues at a fast pace as corn is drying down quickly. Many soybean fields are also maturing quickly during the past stretch of 80-90 degree days. Pastures finally received enough rain to grow. Late plantings of sweet corn are on schedule to be the best of the season.

### **PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz**

The heavy rain forecast for our area in the beginning of the week did not materialize, so field operations continued each day. However, there is adequate moisture (and plenty of heat) for good germination of fall annual weeds which are starting to appear in fields.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending September 9, 2012**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	20	23	21
Corn, dough	95	87	88
Corn, dent	73	57	63
Corn, mature	21	11	21
Corn silage, harvested	50	22	38
Tobacco, harvested	83	46	70
Potatoes, harvested	49	27	31
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	69	39	47
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	97	93	93
Apples, harvested	51	43	42
Grapes, harvested	14	4	3

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending September 9, 2012**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	9	25	46	19
Soybeans	0	4	22	51	23
Pasture	11	21	32	31	5

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States  
Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203  
Harrisburg PA 17112

FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USDA  
PERMIT NO. G-38